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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/584,252	05/31/2000	Robert P. Martin	10002239-1	3762
22879	7590	03/29/2005	EXAMINER	
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400			NOBAHAR, ABDULHAKIM	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2132	

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/584,252

Applicant(s)

MARTIN ET AL.

Examiner

Abdulkhakim Nobahar

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

1. This communication is in response to applicants' amendment received on December 28, 2004.
2. Cancellation of claims 1-20 is acknowledged.
3. Newly added claims 21-33 without introducing new matter is acknowledged.
4. Applicants' arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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1. Claims 21⁻³³ ~~and~~ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ekstrom et al. (6,167,052; hereinafter Ekstrom)

2. Regarding claims 21, and 29, Ekstrom discloses a VLANs network of a plurality of computers having an NT server (corresponding to the recited configuration engine) that authenticates the logon of the clients (corresponding to the recited client identification) of a plurality of computers (abstract; Fig. 1; col. 4, lines 31-40; col. 5, lines 15-39). Ekstrom discloses that each client in the network connects to a particular one of a plurality of ports (corresponding to the recited isolating ports from one another) having restricted connection to at least one VLAN (col. 2, lines 1-26; col. 3, lines 47-50). Ekstrom also discloses a router that is configured by a management server (this server is part of the NT server, Fig. 1) to connects each client to a VLAN (corresponding to the recited isolated computer environment) (col. 3, line 57-col. 4, line 50, where the UBVMS requesting to bind clients to proper VLANs corresponds to the recited configuring a VPN router; col. 11, lines 15-31).

3. Regarding claims 22, 23 and 30, Ekstrom discloses:

The secure computer system, further comprising at least one virtual local area network switch electrically connected to said plurality of computers and to said plurality of client connection ports (Fig. 1; col. 2, lines 1-26; col. 3, lines 40-50; col. 11, lines 15-31), wherein said configuration engine comprises computer readable program code for configuring said at least one virtual local area network switch to changeably connect each of said plurality of client connection ports to at least one of said plurality of computers while isolating said plurality of client connection ports from one another (col. 2, lines 1-26; col. 3, lines 47--col. 4, line 50; col. 6, lines 41-50; col. 11, lines 15-31), and

wherein said configuration engine configures said at least one virtual local area network switch after said at least one client computer identification has been authenticated (abstract; Fig. 1; col. 4, lines 31-40; col. 5, lines 15-39; col. 10, lines 45-65).

4. Regarding claim 24, Ekstrom discloses:

at least one of said plurality of client computers is connected to said shared computer system across a dedicated line (col. 2, lines 47-56, Fig. 1, where connection of NIC to SW 134 may represents a dedicated line).

5. Regarding claims 25-26, Ekstrom discloses:

at least one of said plurality of client computers is connected to said shared computer system across the Internet (col. 4, lines 22-24).

6. Regarding claims 28 and 32, Ekstrom discloses:

at least one firewall connected to each of said plurality of client connection ports, said method further comprising said configuration engine configuring said at least one firewall to connect said plurality of client computers to said plurality of isolated computer environments (col. 3, lines 58-65).

7. Regarding claim 31, Ekstrom discloses:

code for a graphical user interface to manually configure said at least one virtual local area network switch and said at least one virtual private network router (col. 2, lines 12-16; col.32, lines 58-65; col. 10, lines 36-44).

8. Regarding claim 32, Ekstrom discloses:

configuration engine further comprises code for automatically configuring said at least one virtual local area network switch and said at least one virtual private network router according to requests from said at least one client computer (col. 3, lines 58-67; col. 7, lines 11-24).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 6,674,756 B1 to Rao et al.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the

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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

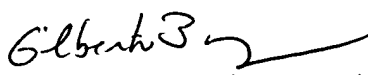
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdulhakim Nobahar whose telephone number is 571-272-3808. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 8-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abdulhakim Nobahar
Examiner
Art Unit 2132

AN 
March 23, 2005


GILBERTO BARRON Jr.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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